

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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1. An authentication apparatus
comprising:

measuring means for measuring biometric
information of an individual;

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converting means for carrying out a
predetermined conversion process with respect to the
biometric information so as to obtain converted
biometric information;

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extracting means for extracting feature
information from the converted biometric information
so as to obtain extracted feature information; and

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verifying means for verifying the extracted
feature information with respect to registered
information which is registered in advance, so as to
authenticate the individual.

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2. The authentication apparatus as
claimed in claim 1, which further comprises:

input means for inputting parameters used by
said converting means for the predetermined
conversion process.

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3. The authentication apparatus as
35 claimed in claim 1, wherein said converting means
uses personal information related to the individual
as the parameters.

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4. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said verifying means receives the registered information by a communication which is made via a medium, and said converting means uses an enciphering key which is used for the communication as the parameters used for the predetermined conversion process.

5. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the registered information is prestored in a recording medium, and said verifying means reads the registered information from the recording medium.

6. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said measuring means, said converting means, said extracting means and said verifying means are provided in a client computer, and said recording medium is read in the client computer.

7. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said measuring means, said converting means, said extracting means and said verifying means are provided in a client computer, and said recording medium is read in a server computer which is coupled to the client computer via a network and the registered

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10. The authentication apparatus as
claimed in claim 9, which further comprises:
input means for inputting parameters used by
said converting means for the predetermined
conversion process.

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11. The authentication apparatus as
claimed in claim 9, wherein said converting means
uses personal information related to the individual
as the parameters.

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12. The authentication apparatus as
claimed in claim 9, wherein said verifying means
receives the registered information by a
communication which is made via a medium, and said
converting means uses an enciphering key which is
used for the communication as the parameters used
for the predetermined conversion process.

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13. The authentication apparatus as
claimed in claim 9, wherein the registered
information is prestored in a recording medium, and
said verifying means reads the registered
information from the recording medium.

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14. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said measuring means, said extracting means, said converting means and said verifying means are provided in a client computer, and said recording medium is read in the client computer.

15. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said measuring means, said extracting means, said converting means and said verifying means are provided in a client computer, and said recording medium is read in a server computer which is coupled to the client computer via a network and the registered information read from the recording medium is supplied to said verifying means in the client computer via the network.

16. The authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said measuring means, said extracting means and said converting means are provided in a client computer, said verifying means is provided in a server computer which is coupled to the client computer via a network, and said recording medium is read in the server computer.

17. ~~An authentication apparatus for~~
~~authenticating an individual by verifying input~~

measuring means for measuring biometric
information of the individual;

10 registering means for registering the
converted biometric information.

~~measuring means for measuring biometric information of an individual;~~

registering means for registering converted
biometric information in advance; and

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measuring means for causing the computer to

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verifying means for causing the computer to verify the extracted feature information with respect to registered information which is registered in advance, so as to authenticate the individual.

input means for causing the computer to input parameters used by said converting means for the predetermined conversion process.

21. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 19, wherein said verifying means causes the computer to read the registered information from a recording medium which prestores the registered information.

22. A computer-readable storage medium

which stores a program for causing a computer to authenticate an individual, comprising:

measuring means for causing the computer to measure biometric information of an individual;

5 extracting means for causing the computer to extract feature information from the biometric information so as to obtain extracted feature information;

10 converting means for causing the computer to carry out a predetermined conversion process with respect to the extracted feature information so as to obtain converted extracted feature information; and

15 verifying means for causing the computer to verify the converted extracted feature information with respect to registered information which is registered in advance, so as to authenticate the individual.

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23. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 22, which further comprises:

25 input means for causing the computer to input parameters used by said converting means for the predetermined conversion process.

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35 24. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein said verifying means causes the computer to read the registered information from a recording medium which prestores the registered information.

25. A computer-readable storage medium

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which stores a program for causing a computer to authenticate an individual by verifying input biometric information with respect to registered biometric information, comprising:

measuring means for causing the computer to measure biometric information of the individual;

converting means for causing the computer to carry out a predetermined conversion process with respect to the biometric information so as to obtain converted biometric information; and

registering means for causing the computer to register the converted biometric information.

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26. A computer-readable storage medium

which stores a program for causing a computer to authenticate an individual, comprising:

measuring means for causing the computer to measure biometric information of an individual;

converting means for causing the computer to carry out a predetermined conversion process with respect to the biometric information so as to obtain converted biometric information;

registering means for causing the computer to register converted biometric information in advance; and

verifying means for causing the computer to verify the converted biometric information obtained by said converting means with respect to the converted biometric information registered in said registering means, so as to authenticate the individual.

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